AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-29. (canceled)

30. (currently amended) A method for enhancing intestinal absorption of a drug in an animal, said method comprising administering to the animal:

(a) a first population of carrier particles comprising a drug-bioadhesive component; and

(b) a second population of carrier particles comprising a penetration enhancer;~~[[,]]~~ wherein intestinal tissue is activated by said penetration enhancer prior to the arrival of said drug; and wherein said first population and second population of carrier particles are administered in a single pharmaceutical formulation ~~in a single compartment capsule~~.

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 30 wherein said first population is prepared as a tablet or multiparticulate formulation.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 30 wherein said second population is prepared as a tablet, multiparticulate, emulsion, microemulsion or self-emulsifying system.

33. (previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein said drug is selected from the group consisting of protein, peptide, nucleic acid, oligonucleotide, peptide hormone, antibiotic, antimicrobial agent, vasoconstrictor, cardiovascular drug, vasodilator, enzyme, bone metabolism controlling agent, antihistamine, antitussive, expectorant, chemotherapeutic agent, sedative, antidepressant, beta-blocker, analgesic and agiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitor.

34. (previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein said penetration enhancer is selected from the group consisting of fatty acid, bile salt, chelating agent and non-chelating surfactant.

35. (previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein a bioadhesive component is selected from the group consisting of polyacrylic polymers, poly(acrylic acid), tragacanth, cellulose, polyethyleneoxide cellulose derivatives, karya gum, starch, gelatin pectin, latex, chiostatin, sodium alginate and receptor-binding peptide.

36. (previously presented) The method of claim 33, wherein said oligonucleotide is an antisense oligonucleotide.

37. (previously presented) The method of claim 33 wherein said oligonucleotide comprises SEQ ID NO:1.

38. (previously presented) The method of claim 35 wherein said bioadhesive comprises a polyacrylic polymer.

39. (previously presented) The method of claim 35 wherein said bioadhesive further comprises hydroxypropylmethylcellulose.

40. (currently amended) A method for enhancing intestinal absorption of a drug in an animal, said method comprising administering to the animal:

(a) a first population of carrier particles comprising a drug-bioadhesive component; and

(b) a second population of carrier particles comprising a penetration enhancer;[[,]]

wherein intestinal tissue is activated by said penetration enhancer prior to the arrival of said drug; ~~and~~

wherein said first population and second population of carrier particles are administered in a single pharmaceutical formulation; and

wherein said first population and second population of carrier particles are released concurrently to said intestinal tissue ~~in a single compartment capsule~~.

41. (previously presented) The method of claim 30 wherein said capsule is not a multicompartment capsule.

42. (previously presented) The method of claim 40 wherein said capsule is not a multicompartment capsule.

43. (new) The method of claim 30, wherein said first population of carrier particles and said second population of carrier particles are present in a unit dosage form, wherein preparation of said unit dosage form comprises uniformly mixing said first population of carrier particles and said second population of carrier particles to form a single pharmaceutical formulation that is used to make said unit dosage form.

44. (new) The method of claim 43, wherein said second population of carrier particles further comprises an enteric coating.

45. (new) The method of claim 43, wherein said first population of carrier particles and said second population of carrier particles are mixed with a carrier or excipient.

46. (new) The method of claim 43, wherein said unit dosage form is a tablet.

47. (new) The method of claim 43, wherein said unit dosage form is a capsule.

48. (new) The method of claim 47, wherein said capsule is a single compartment capsule.

49. (new) The method of claim 43, wherein said first population of carrier particles and said second population of carrier particles are released from said unit dosage form concurrently.

50. (new) The method of claim 40, wherein said first population of carrier particles and said second population of carrier particles are present in a unit dosage, wherein preparation of said unit dosage form comprises uniformly mixing said first population of carrier particles and said second population of carrier particles to form a single pharmaceutical formulation that is used to make said unit dosage form.

51. (new) The method of claim 50, wherein said first population of carrier particles and said second population of carrier particles are mixed with a carrier or excipient.

52. (new) The method of claim 50, wherein said unit dosage form is a tablet.

53. (new) The method of claim 50, wherein said unit dosage form is a capsule.

54. (new) The method of claim 53, wherein said capsule is a single compartment capsule.

55. (new) The method of claim 50, wherein said second population of carrier particles further comprises an enteric coating.